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September 8, 2000

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 08137.0004

**Box Patent Application**  
**Assistant Commissioner for Patents**  
**Washington, D.C. 20231**

New U.S. Patent Application

Title: THIN FILM FORMING METHOD AND THIN FILM FORMING  
APPARATUS

being a **Continuation** of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/01233,  
filed March 2, 2000.

Inventors: Hiroshi SHINRIKI and Kenji MATSUMOTO

Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) as a **Continuation** application of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/01233, filed March 2, 2000, which claimed priority of Japanese Patent Application No. 066552/1999, filed March 12, 1999.

The application, which is not in the English language is enclosed, for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-referenced application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.52(d) and §608.01 of the MPEP, Filing of Non-English Language Applications:

1. A check for \$730.00 representing a \$690.00 filing fee and \$40.00 for recording the Assignment.
2. Non-English Application - 26 pages, including 1 independent claim and 11 claims total.
3. Drawings - 9 sheets of drawings containing 12 figures.

09/08/00  
JC715 U.S. PTO

JC808 U.S. PTO  
09/657627  
09/08/00

4. Declaration and Power of Attorney.
5. Recordation Form Cover Sheet and Assignment to TOKYO ELECTRON LIMITED.
6. Certified copy of Japanese Patent Application No. 066552/1999, filed March 12, 1999.
7. Information Disclosure Statement and Information Disclosure Citation, PTO 1449 with cited documents attached.

Applicants claim the right to priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 066552/1999, filed March 12, 1999.


An English translation of the non-English language papers will be filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office within the required time period.

Please accord this application a serial number and filing date and record and return the Assignment to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees due and any other fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 during the pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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DWH/FPD/rgm  
Enclosures